

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Veterinary Shortage ID Code: NM114

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage: State of New Mexico (Colfax, Union, Mora, Harding, San Miguel, Quay, Guadalupe, Torrance, De Baca, Curry and Roosevelt Counties)
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or Location of Position: Northeast Quadrant of State
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

Type I Shortage: Private Practice
 Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)
 Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other _____

Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area
 Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)
 Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other : _____

Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)
 Employer: _____ Position Title: _____
 Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- Food Safety
- Public Health
- Epidemiology
- Other: _____

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The primary objective for livestock veterinarians in northeastern New Mexico is to service beef, dairy, and sheep and goat operations. The 11 counties in this quadrant cover 31,789 square miles. This quadrant has a multicultural population of 245,128 and average per capita income of \$24,145. Some counties in this region have very low per capita incomes (Harding County \$16,863). Many of the ranches and dairies are family owned and operated. Livestock operations range from small herds on minimal acreage to expansive commercial operations on multiple sections of land. Three of the State's eleven livestock auction markets are found in this quadrant and livestock often travel across state lines. Union County has the State's second largest cash receipts for beef at \$128,415,000 and Curry County the largest, at \$198,798,000. Curry and Roosevelt Counties contribute large cash receipts for milk production. This area has 662,272 beef cattle, dairy cattle and sheep; there are only 22 listed food animal veterinarians (FAV) to service them (1 FAV/30,000 animals). Five counties in this quadrant have no livestock veterinarians. A Type II Shortage veterinarian would spend at least 30% of their time servicing the area by providing herd health management, disease surveillance and performing regulatory duties.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

In order to fulfill the objectives, a food animal veterinarian in this area would be involved in: herd management; basic health care; disease surveillance for beef cattle, dairy cattle and small ruminants; performing the regulatory functions of a USDA Accredited Veterinarian including issuing certificates for interstate and international livestock movement; brucellosis testing and vaccination; tuberculosis testing; development of disease management and cleaning/disinfection plans; and the recognition of signs of foreign animal diseases. Included in the time assessment is the mandatory recordkeeping associated with all of these tasks. Disease surveillance would include testing and monitoring for tuberculosis, brucellosis, bovine trichomoniasis, bovine viral diarrhea, scrapie, and pseudorabies. This veterinarian would also conduct surveillance for livestock diseases that have the potential to impact the health of humans and other animals.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

There have been attempts by the multiple State agencies to develop incentives for livestock veterinarians. An agreement with Kansas State University to admit qualified NM students from agricultural backgrounds has stalled due to lack of funding. The burden of supplying more livestock practitioners to the area continues to fall on the shoulders of existing practitioners, who find it challenging to attract veterinarians away from the higher salaries and perceived better quality of life that the metropolitan areas provide. Financial incentives are vital in any efforts to attract veterinarian practitioners to these rural areas.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

New Mexico's livestock industry has a long history steeped in family tradition. Many cattle/calf ranches and dairies are family owned and operated, on lands family-owned for generations. Some operate on Spanish land grants hundreds of years old. However, NM is also known for having some of the largest corporate dairies in the nation. The State's economy benefits greatly from the revenue generated by the livestock industry and many New Mexicans are employed by ranches and dairies. New Mexico, the nation's fifth largest state, ranks eighth nationally in milk production. Milk is the state's #1 cash commodity \$1.36 billion and cattle/calves second at \$999 million (2008). It has been estimated that the New Mexico dairy industry generates 17,158 jobs. The quadrant's existing livestock veterinarians face long hours trying to service a large number of livestock over hundreds of square miles. Not only does this put a strain on the veterinarians and their families but also does a disservice to the livestock producers and compromises efforts by regulatory agencies to deal with the animal diseases that can affect both animal and public health. Proper disease surveillance is at risk because there are not enough veterinarians in the area to service the food animal industry. The existing veterinarians in this area are doing the best they can with the resources available, but they are stretched too thin. More veterinarians are crucial to support this vital segment of New Mexico's economy, keep our food animals healthy and ensure the safety of our food supply.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a "service in emergency" agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the "Service in Emergency" agreement.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Dave E. Fly, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: New Mexico Livestock Board

Email: dave.fly@state.nm.us

Telephone Number: (505) 841-6161
(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.